

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4102

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS,CG

SUBJECT: KOREA AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: A) STATE 186527 B) KINSHASA 3717 C) KINSHASA 4427

1. BELIEVE THAT ROKG ASSESSMENT ON ZAIRE IN PARA 3 REFTEL "A" MAY BE A LITTLE TOO OPTIMISTIC. WHILE GOZ APPEARS PREPARED TO SUPPORT ROK CANDIDACY IN NAC, RECENT AFFAIRS HERE SUGGEST THIS MAY BE ONLY TACIT.

2. ON AUGUST 12 ROK VICE MINISTER FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS, WON KYUNG LEE, ARRIVED IN KINSHASA WITH PRIMARY MISSION TO SEE MOBUTU AND SEEK GOZ SUPPORT FOR SOUTH KOREAN CANDIDACY IN NAC. ACCORDING TO ROK COUNSELOR, MEETING DID NOT GO VERY WELL. MOBUTU DID NOT HAVE ANY OF HIS PRINCIPAL COUNSELORS ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITH HIM AND SEEMED TO BE SOMEWHAT ANNOYED AT BEING APPROACHED ON THIS MATTER. HE DID HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT GOZ AS "TRUE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY" WOULD SUPPORT ROK REQUEST. HE DID NOT, ON OTHER HAND, SUGGEST THAT FORMNIN BULA HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO VOICE VERBALLY THIS SUPPORT. MOBUTU THEN WENT INTO LONG MONOLGUE ON HOW NORTH KOREANS, WITHIN LESS THAN 8 MONTHS, PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE, WHILE ROK, DESPITE CONSISTENT GOZ SUPPORT IN INTERNATIONAL FORA HAD DONE NOTHING. WHEN WON KYUNG LEE RAISED QUESTION OF ROK OFFER TO EQUIP AND STAFF HOSPITA
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IN KINSHASA (REF. C), MOBUTU SEEMED TO BE TOTALLY UNAWARE OF IT. HIS REACTION, HOWEVER, WAS FAVORABLE BUT AGAIN, ACCORDING TO ROK COUNSELOR
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IN VIEW OF ABSENCE OF KEY ADVISORS IT WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DIRECTLY CONCERNED WOULD ACT UPON OFFER. REST OF VICE MINISTER'S STAY IN KINSHASA CONSISTED OF VISITING CULTURAL SPORTS. HE WAS UNABLE TO SEE BULA OR ANYBODY IN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

3. COMMENT: ROK COUNSELOR CONSIDERS THAT, IN VIEW TREATMENT GIVEN WON KYUNG LEE, HIS GOVERNMENT CANNOT EXPECT ACTIVE SUPPORT OF GOZ, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF LATTER'S CO-SPONSORSHIP OF RESOLUTION ON NORTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP IN HAVANA. HE FEELS THAT IF EXECUTIVE BUREAU OF NAC FOREIGN MINISTERS DOES NOT ACT ON ROK REQUEST PRIOR TO MEETING OF MINISTERS IN LIMA, CHANCES OF SUCCESS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE VERY SLIM. GIVEN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EMBASSY INCLINED TO SHARE THIS VIEW.

4. ON QUESTION OF HOSPITAL, UNDERSTAND DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS DONE NOTHING AND FROM ALL INDICATIONS, BULA SEEMS TO BE DELIBERATELY STALLING.
WALKER

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